

CATHEDRAL ANTIQUITIES

A
DESCRIPTIVE
CATALOGUE
OF
EMBELLISHED WORKS
ON
Architectural Antiquities
AND
Topography.

BY J. BRITTON,

*Editor of "The Society of Antiquaries of London,"
Editor of "The Royal Society of Antiquaries,"
Secretary Member of "The Antiquarian Society of Birmingham,"
Secretary of "The London Architectural and Antiquarian Society,"
Secretary Member of "The Hampshire Society of Antiquaries," &c.*

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SPUR-WAY TO THE CLOSTER, NORWICH CATHEDRAL.

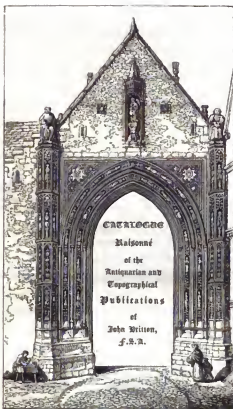
Thompson, sc.

" IF THE STUDY OF ANTIQUITIES BE JUDICIOUSLY PURSUED AND TASTEFULLY DIRECTED, IT TENDS TO DEVELOPE THE FLUCTUATIONS OF SCIENCE, ART, AND LITERATURE; CARRIES THE MIND BACK TO REMOTE AGES, AND DISPLAYS THE CONDITION, CUSTOMS, AND MANNERS, OF MEN IN FORMER TIMES. HENCE IT ELICITS THE MOST POSITIVE AND INCONTROVERTIBLE DATA FOR HISTORICAL DEDUCTION; SHEDS WHAT MAN HAS BEEN BY HIS WORKS; AND TEACHES US THE IMPORTANT LESSON OF KNOWING OURSELVES, BY COMPARISON WITH OUR ANCESTORS."

J. B.

CONTENTS.

	<u>Page</u>
<u>ADDRESS—explaining the Origin and Characteristics of the "ARCHITECTURAL ANTIQUITIES"</u>	3
<u>The Contents, &c. of the ARCHITECTURAL ANTIQUITIES OF GREAT BRITAIN</u>	4
<u>EXPLANATION OF "CHRONOLOGICAL ARCHITECTURE"</u>	5
<u>REDCLIFFE CHURCH—BATH ABBEY CHURCH</u>	6
<u>SPECIMENS OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE</u>	6
<u>THE CATHEDRAL ANTIQUITIES OF ENGLAND</u>	7
<u>The Interest, Utility, and Variety of the Subject:—Origin and Nature of the Work</u>	7
<u>Salisbury Cathedral</u>	8
<u>Winchester Cathedral</u>	8
<u>Norwich Cathedral</u>	9
<u>York Cathedral</u>	9
<u>Lichfield Cathedral</u>	9
<u>Oxford Cathedral</u>	9
<u>Canterbury Cathedral</u>	10
<u>Wells Cathedral</u>	10
<u>Exeter Cathedral</u>	10
<u>Architectural Illustrations of London Buildings</u>	10
<u>Library Busts:—Shakspeare, Camden, and Jonson</u>	11
<u>Portraits of Shakspeare and Nichols</u>	11
<u>Beverley Minster, Two Views of</u>	11
<u>Views of Noblemen's and Gentlemen's Seats</u>	11



Architectural, del.

Expiingham Choir House, Norwich.

Photocopy, del.

Vide "History," Sec. " of Norwich Cathedral."

ADDRESS.

THE AUTHOR and PUBLISHERS of the Works specified in the following Catalogue having expended more than £30,000 in executing them, and having in their progress given employment to and promoted the "fair fame" of many artists, artisans, and tradesmen; having also administered to the laudable curiosity of men of science and connoisseurs, and excited inquiry for and an interest in the Architectural Antiquities of the country, are induced to adopt this mode of informing the Public generally, and the Antiquary in particular, of the nature, extent, and peculiar characteristics of these Publications.

The *Architectural Antiquities* was commenced in 1805, and was a novelty in English Literature; as it was intended to comprise Plans, Sections, and Elevations, with Picturesque Views of Ancient Buildings. It also attempted to elucidate the histories and architectural peculiarities and styles of each edifice from authentic data or rational deduction, free from bigoted, prejudiced, and hypothetical opinion. In the execution of this Work, the Author has been assisted and honoured by the literary contributions of many learned and distinguished Antiquaries; and he has also given employment and encouragement to many young artists of talents, who have since attained deserved fame. The *Architectural Antiquities* was and is a miscellaneous and picturesque work, embracing a variety of antiquarian subjects; but chiefly those of ecclesiastical, domestic, and castellated architecture. Its extent, the subjects it embraces, and the opinions of some respectable reviewers are detailed on the following page.

The Architectural Antiquities of Great Britain ;

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"This is a truly splendid and interesting production; accurate enough to excite professional attention, and sufficiently picturesque and diversified to afford so ample treat to the general reader. It does high credit to the taste, industry, and ingenuity of the indefatigable Author, and is a real honour to the country."—*New Annual Register*, 1818.

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R. Cutts, del. Font in Norwich Cathedral. Thompson, sc.

ALTHOUGH the Work referred to in the preceding page elucidates many historic facts relating to Antient Architecture, and delineates many of its principal forms, varieties, and characteristics; yet it was thought not to be sufficiently scientific for the architect, nor was it treated so systematic and chronologically as to satisfy the connoisseur and student in Architectural Antiquities. To accommodate these, and at the same time concentrate, digest, and classify the miscellaneous information contained in the "Architectural Antiquities," and indeed in all other published works on the same subject, the Author undertook the following Publication in the hopes of supplying former omissions, affording information and satisfaction to the persons already alluded to, and furnishing what had long been considered a *desideratum* in this class of literature.

CHRONOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE Antient Architecture of Great Britain;

CONTAINING a Series of Engravings of Views, Plans, Elevations, Sections, and Details of all the various Classes of Buildings and Styles of Architecture that have successively prevailed at different Periods in Great Britain: accompanied by Historical and Descriptive Accounts of entire Edifices, and of their component Parts.

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ANECDOTES OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED PERSONS INTERRED IN THE CHURCH.

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The Cathedral Antiquities of England;

OR,

AN HISTORICAL, ARCHITECTURAL, AND GRAPHICAL ILLUSTRATION OF THE ENGLISH CATHEDRAL CHURCHES.

EXTENSIVE investigation, and equally extensive travelling on account of the Works already enumerated, necessarily led the Author to many English cities, where the splendid Cathedrals irresistibly attracted his attention and commanded his admiration.

THE ENGLISH CATHEDRALS are universally acknowledged to be the most important of our National Antiquities. Whether contemplated as objects of Grandeur, Science, Art, or History, they are alike entitled to the regard and admiration of all persons of taste and learning: and are still more eminently interesting to the Architectural Antiquary. He views them with peculiar delight: examines their construction, and the various styles of Architecture which they exhibit; inquires into their origin, history, epochs of enlargement and alteration; and finally analyzes them in the aggregate, and in detail, with partiality, but with critical attention. To the Scientific Antiquary, indeed, they present an endless source of mental pleasure and useful instruction. It is, however, singular, that since the time of Browne Willis, who produced "A Survey of the Cathedrals," in 1742, no regular and complete publication has appeared on the same subject: yet such a work is allowed to be a desideratum in Antiquarian Literature. Admitting this, it will be superfluous to expatiate on the utility and value of a new publication, which embraces all the essential and faithful parts of the former, with the addition of much Historical, Critical, and Archaeological Information, accompanied by numerous accurate and highly-finished Engravings.

After examining many of these Edifices, and also perusing all the local guides and other literary works that had been published, the Author found that though of the first architectural importance in the island, their Histories had never been collectively investigated, nor their Architecture correctly delineated. With Artists instructed by practice in his former work, he resolved to commence a new and improved publication on those splendid buildings, and he farther resolved to make this more scientific than the former; to render its Engravings superior in execution, and to exert at once all his zeal and all his knowledge to produce a work in some degree commensurate to the national character of the subject. How far he has been successful, or been able to execute his intentions, he submits to the decision of the liberal and discriminating critic. He is willing enough to acknowledge that he has never yet satisfied himself, but is still eager to seek that satisfaction by a determination to profit by experience, and to render every new effort an improvement, or an attempt at improvement, on the former. Actuated by this motive, he submits to his friends and the public a detailed list of the publications he has produced since the year 1801, of which any copies remain for sale. Of some of these only a very few are left; and some works which he has produced in the interim are out of print.

Owing to the fire which destroyed the premises of Mr. Taylor, in Holborn, in November, 1822, and by which deplorable accident above nine hundred pounds worth of uninsured property of the following works was consumed, many odd parts and volumes are rendered very scarce.

The Author also pledges himself, that no second edition of the *large paper copies* will ever be printed.

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And seemeth mountaynes joyed by concrete;
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CHATTERTON.

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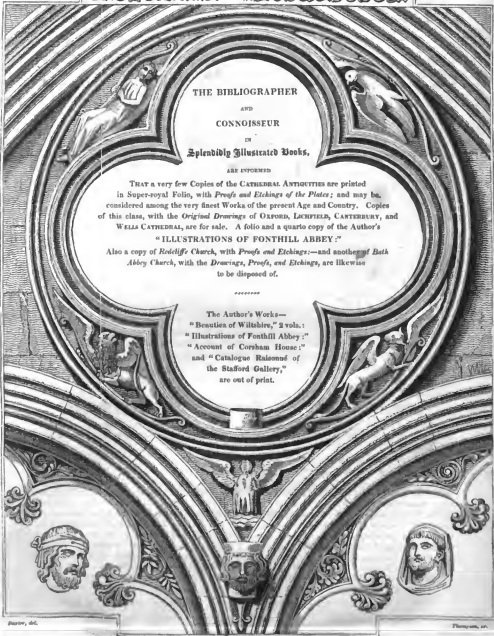
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